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**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line <sup>3</sup>§, with the following rewritten

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paragraph:

***CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS***

-- This is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/US03/22075, filed July 14, 2003, and claims ~~This application is entitled to the benefit~~ of the earlier filing date of prior U.S. provisional application No. 60/395,681, filed on July 12, 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference.--

Please insert the following Abstract as the last page of the specification (as page 25, after page 24):

***-- ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE***

Novel nonlinear optical materials are described having the general formula  $M_xM'_ySc_z(BO_3)_4$  where M and M' are metals, typically rare earth metals, and the sum of x, y, and z is about four. One example of such a material is  $La_{0.7}Y_{0.3}Sc_3(BO_3)_4$ . Exemplary crystalline materials according to the general formula exhibit useful optical characteristics and desirable physical properties for nonlinear optical applications. Novel compositions and devices using the nonlinear optical materials also are described.--